



**ILLINOIS
ASSOCIATION OF
REALTORS®**

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Federal Communications Commission
c/o Marlene Dortch, Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 24, 2011

WT 11-65: *In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations.*

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

The Illinois Association of REALTORS® is one of the largest trade associations in the state, with 44,000 members. We are the recognized voice for real estate in Illinois, and the leading advocate for legislation to safeguard and advance the interests of real property owners. We also work to advocate for and promote a healthy business environment.

As you know, our world is in the midst of a digital revolution, with advancements in communications technology having a profound effect on the ways we do business. For example, the availability of wireless broadband networks, along with devices enabling high-speed mobile access to the Internet, has been a game-changer. Particularly in a business such as real estate, having convenient access to all types of information while on the road greatly enhances productivity, efficiency, and the ability to serve customers.

But, as you also know, mobile broadband service is not universally available. Particularly in rural areas, REALTORS® and other business people may not have access to the quality broadband needed to unleash the potential of smartphones and tablet computers. Our members would enthusiastically welcome cooperation between service providers and regulators to accelerate the pace at which next-generation wireless broadband infrastructure is deployed.

A favorable decision by the commission in the matter referenced above would be a critically important step toward the goal of ubiquitous mobile broadband. AT&T and T-Mobile have made clear their intention, following the merger, to make a quantum leap in the amount of private capital they plan to invest, and the speed at which they plan to add 4th Generation Long Term Evolution infrastructure to their combined network. This would make it possible in a few years for 55 million more Americans to connect than under previous plans for network build-outs. Our association believes this accelerated deployment would have an extraordinarily positive impact on business in Illinois and on the creation of jobs and wealth.

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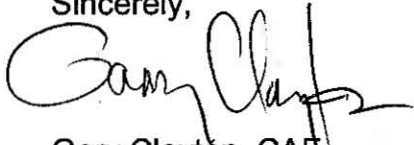
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Particularly in the midst of the economic uncertainty our country is currently facing, our members believe the commission would be rendering a great service by giving AT&T and T-Mobile permission to merge.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Clayton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gary Clayton, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
Illinois Association of REALTORS®
522 South Fifth Street
Springfield, IL 62701

cc:

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell